

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 are pending in this application. Claim 2 is currently withdrawn from consideration. By this Amendment, independent claim 1 is amended. Support for the amendment to independent claim 1 can be found, at least, in paragraph [0027] of the specification. No new matter is added. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3, and 4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Morimoto et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,774,935) in view of Kuno (U.S. Patent No. 6,067,624). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that the applied references fail to disclose and would not have rendered obvious, at least, a digital camera system "wherein when the first digital camera detects an instruction about taking a photograph from the first controller while the first digital camera is executing the instruction about taking the photograph by the second controller, the first digital camera stores the instruction about taking the photograph from the first controller and only executes the instruction about taking the photograph from the first controller, which is stored in the first digital camera, after completion of all of the instruction about taking the photograph by the second controller," as recited by independent claim 1.

The Office Action alleges that Kuno teaches that "when the digital camera detects an instruction about taking a photograph from the first controller while the digital camera is controlled by the second controller, the first digital camera stores the instruction about taking the photograph from the first controller, which is stored in the digital camera, after completion of all of the control of the digital camera by the second controller." See page 6 of the Office Action. The Office Action alleges that Kuno teaches executing a subroutine to place the first controller at the top of a control queue. The Office Action alleges that control

by any second controller reaches completion as the first controller is placed at the top of the queue. See page 6 of the Office Action. As such, the Office Action alleges that the deletion of the top of the control queue marks the completion of all of the control of the digital camera by the second controller, as the second controller no longer controls any function of the digital camera after that point. See page 3 of the Office Action.

However, Kuno teaches determining relative queue placement of the first controller and the second controller based upon determinations made by the control-privilege managing unit 11c. See column 5, lines 14-17 of Kuno. Kuno does not teach determining relative queue placement based upon the functions executed by the controllers. Kuno does not teach determining relative queue placement based upon whether any of the controllers is executing the instruction about taking a photograph. Kuno does not teach the specific functions executed by the controllers as having any effect upon the relative queue placement. Kuno is silent regarding storing the instruction about taking the photograph from the first controller to the first digital camera, while the first digital camera is executing the instruction about taking the photograph by the second controller. Morimoto fails to cure the deficiencies of Kuno.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the applied references fail to disclose and would not have rendered obvious each and every element of independent claim 1. As such, independent claim 1 is patentable.

The dependent claims are also patentable for their dependencies from independent claim 1, as well as for the additional features they recite.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

II. Rejoinder

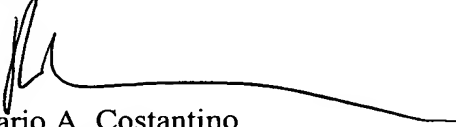
Applicants respectfully request rejoinder of dependent claim 2 upon allowance of independent base claim 1.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


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MAC:RYH/axl

Attachments:

Request for Continued Examination
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: June 3, 2011

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